

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
 - providing, via a set top box, a list of one or more video-on-demand (VOD) clip categories, each VOD clip category containing one or more corresponding VOD clips;
 - receiving, through the set top box, user input specifying selected ones of the VOD clip categories;
 - providing, via a set top box, a list of one or more VOD clip parameters, each of the VOD clip parameters defining how individual ones of the VOD clips from the selected ones of the VOD clip categories will be assembled into a composite VOD clip;
 - receiving, through the set top box, user input specifying selected ones of the parameters for one or more of the selected VOD clip categories;
 - providing, via a set top box, a list of one or more VOD clip metadata search attributes, each of the VOD clip metadata search attributes filtering refining the search results of one or more VOD clips corresponding to a respective one of the VOD clip categories;
 - receiving, through the set top box, user input specifying one or more VOD clip metadata search attributes for one or more of the selected VOD clip categories; and
 - automatically creating, at a server communicatively coupled to the set top box, the composite VOD clip to include one or more corresponding VOD clips from each of the selected ones of the VOD clip categories assembled according to the selected VOD clip parameters of each

selected VOD clip parameters of each selected VOD clip category and filtered according to the one or more provided VOD clip metadata search attributes of each selected VOD clip category.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
presenting the composite VOD clip to a user to effect a passive viewing experience.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the composite VOD clip consists of a subset of the one or more VOD clips corresponding to the selected VOD clip parameters in each selected VOD clip category.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the one or more VOD clip parameters includes a VOD clip parameter selected from the group consisting of a random selection parameter, a maximum number parameter, a maximum time parameter, and a sequential parameter.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the composite VOD clip is automatically regenerated upon user request or according to an externally specified schedule.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the one or more corresponding VOD clips made available prior to a specified time are removed from the composite VOD clip.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the one or more corresponding

VOD clips previously presented to a particular user are removed from the user's composite VOD clip.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein one or more additional VOD clips are included as component VOD clips of the composite VOD clip.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the one or more additional VOD clips comprise VOD clips selected from the group consisting of advertising VOD clips, promotional VOD clips pertaining to VOD content unrelated to the composite VOD clip, and promotional VOD clips pertaining to VOD content related to the composite VOD clip.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein one or more additional graphical or data contents, including content tickers, graphical ads or promotional contents unrelated to the composite VOD clip, and content tickers, graphical ads or promotional contents related to the composite VOD clip, are added alongside or partially overlay the composite VOD clip.

12. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon executable instructions which when executed by a processor cause a method to be performed, the method comprising:

providing a list of one or more video-on-demand (VOD) clip categories, each VOD clip category containing one or more corresponding VOD clips;

receiving user input specifying selected ones of the VOD clip categories;

providing a list of one or more VOD clip parameters, each of the VOD clip parameters

defining how individual ones of the VOD clips from the selected ones of the VOD clip categories will be assembled into a composite VOD clip;

receiving user input specifying selected ones of the parameters for one or more of the selected VOD clip categories;

providing a list of one or more VOD clip metadata search attributes, each of the VOD clip metadata search attributes ~~filtering~~ refining the search results of one or more VOD clips corresponding to a respective one of the VOD clip categories;

receiving user input specifying one or more VOD clip metadata search attributes for one or more of the selected VOD clip categories; and

automatically creating the composite VOD clip to include one or more corresponding VOD clips from each of the selected ones of the VOD clip categories assembled according to the selected VOD clip parameters of each selected VOD clip category and filtered according to the one or more provided VOD clip metadata search attributes of each selected VOD clip category.

13. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 12, the method further comprising:
presenting the composite VOD clip to a user to effect a passive viewing experience.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 13 wherein the composite VOD clip consists of a subset of the one or more VOD clips corresponding to the selected VOD clip parameters in each selected VOD clip category.

16. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 15 wherein the one or more VOD clip parameters includes a VOD clip parameter selected from the group consisting of a random selection parameter, a maximum number parameter, a maximum time parameter, and a sequential parameter.
17. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 12 wherein the composite VOD clip is automatically regenerated upon user request or according to an externally specified schedule.
18. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 12 wherein one or more VOD clips made available prior to a specified time are removed from the composite VOD clip.
19. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 12 wherein one or more VOD clips previously presented to a particular user are removed from the composite VOD clip.
20. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 12 wherein one or more additional VOD clips are included as component VOD clips of the composite VOD clip.
21. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 20 wherein the one or more additional VOD clips comprise VOD clips selected from the group consisting of advertising VOD clips, promotional VOD clips pertaining to VOD content unrelated to the composite VOD clip, and promotional VOD clips pertaining to VOD content related to the composite VOD clip.
22. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a server storing VOD content, the VOD content defined by a plurality of VOD clip categories, each VOD clip category containing one or more corresponding ones of the VOD clips; and

a set top box communicatively coupled to the server, the set top box storing an application, the application configured to provide a user with a VOD clip category selection functionality that enables the user to select from among the plurality of VOD clip categories, a VOD clip parameter selection functionality that allows the user to select one or more VOD clip parameters, each of the VOD clip parameters defining how individual ones of the VOD clips from selected ones of the VOD clip categories will be assembled into a composite VOD clip, a VOD clip metadata search attribute functionality that allows a user to provide one or more VOD clip metadata search attributes, each of the VOD clip metadata search attributes filtering refining the search results of one or more VOD clips corresponding to a respective one of the VOD clip categories such that the composite VOD clip consists of the subset of the one or more VOD clips corresponding to each selected VOD clip category; and a VOD clip composite functionality configured to automatically create the composite VOD clip to include one or more corresponding VOD clips from each of the selected VOD clip categories assembled according to the selected VOD clip parameters of each selected VOD clip category and filtered according to the one or more provided VOD clip metadata search attributes of each selected VOD clip category.

23. (Original) The system of claim 22 further comprising:

a display screen for presenting the composite VOD clip to the user to effect a passive viewing experience.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22 wherein the one or more VOD clip parameters includes a VOD clip parameter selected from the group consisting of a random selection parameter, a maximum number parameter, a maximum time parameter, and a sequential parameter.

26. (Original) The system of claim 22 wherein the composite VOD clip is automatically regenerated upon user request or according to an externally specified schedule.

27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22 wherein one or more VOD clips made available prior to a specified time are removed from the composite VOD clip.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22 wherein one or more VOD clips previously presented to the user are removed from the composite VOD clip.

29. (Original) The system of claim 22 wherein one or more additional VOD clips are included as component VOD clips of the composite VOD clip.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 29 wherein the one or more additional VOD clips are selected from the group consisting of advertising VOD clips, promotional VOD clips pertaining to VOD content unrelated to the composite VOD clip, and promotional VOD clips pertaining to VOD content related to the composite VOD clip.